



sanitation news

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COMMISSIONER'S HOLIDAY MESSAGE



In this holiday season, I would like to wish the Sanitation "Family" all the very best, as well as a happy and healthy 2006. The holidays are both a time of celebration and reflection. As I look back on the last 12 months, I see many reasons to be thankful and proud of our accomplishments. This past year we celebrated the Department's 75th anniversary ... three quarters of a century keeping the World's Capital clean and running — even during the worst snowstorms! And as if to prove this point, in 2005 we saw a record-breaking third consecutive winter with a 40-inch-plus snowfall. But we were equal to the challenge and thanks to our efforts, a few hours after the last snowflake hit the ground the "Big Apple" was up and running in its usual 24/7 hectic pace.

Other 2005 highlights included Sanitation's first "Family Day" at Floyd Bennett Field — a wonderful day for thousands of employees and their families to mingle and enjoy good food. We also had our share of Sanitation heroes who selflessly risked their lives to save other New Yorkers in danger. But with those joys, we also had our sorrows as we mourned the loss of several "family" members, some felled in the line of duty.

However, our concerns were not restricted to our city; we also adopted a ship, the U.S.S. Austin, now navigating the waters of the Persian Gulf. We put together a comprehensive solid waste management plan. We got to play 'celeb,' as we were featured on both the Today Show and on the Tony Danza Show. And, we also welcomed hundreds of new Sanitation members to our ranks — new blood to follow in our footsteps.

This is all to say that I feel immensely proud and humble over the honor of being asked by Mayor Bloomberg to lead this great Department for another four years. I firmly believe the best is yet to come.

All in all, 2005 was a challenging but ultimately deeply rewarding year that tested our mettle. It proved us once again worthy of the moniker "New York's Strongest." Happy Holidays!

Mayor Bloomberg Salutes DSNY Heroes

Rookie Sanitation Workers Damon Allen and Michael Kalinowski of Brooklyn South District 17 receive thanks from five-year-old Emani McCovery and her mom, Karen Hopper, for saving the child's life last September when she was dropped from the third floor of a burning building in Brooklyn. For catching the precious cargo, the two Sanitation Workers not only received their formal oath of office at the Department's November 16th ceremony at Brooklyn College, but they also received Gold Medals of Honor from Mayor Bloomberg and Commissioner Doherty. As if that weren't enough, the two rookies also were honored by the New York Daily News as October's 'Heroes of the Month.' Quite a start for what everyone believes will be very successful careers for both of these dedicated new Sanitation Workers.



DSNY Welcomes New Employees, Salutes Heroes

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and Sanitation Commissioner John J. Doherty on November 16th administered the Oaths of Office to 400 newly hired Sanitation Workers. The Mayor and Sanitation Commissioner also awarded Medals of Honor to six employees for acts of bravery and promoted more than 100 other workers to the ranks of General Superintendent, Sanitation Police Inspector, and Sanitation Supervisor.

"I am extremely proud of this Department and its 75-years of tradition of serving our City," said Commissioner Doherty. "I welcome the 400 newest members of our Department and congratulate the over 100 new supervisory personnel who ensure that DSNY remains one our New York's great municipal agencies. DSNY personnel do a gritty but an essential job and at times we do it with compassion and courage. We are proud to serve this great City and will continue to in the future with commitment and excellence."

Gold Medals of Honor Winners

On August 11, 2005, Supervisor Daniel Kane of Bronx District 6 noticed smoke billowing from a top floor of a nearby apartment building in the Bronx. Supervisor Kane and Sanitation Worker Roger Martinez ran into the building to alert the residents, several of whom were young children and led them to safety. After securing the safety of the residents, Supervisor Kane and Sanitation Worker Martinez reentered the building to close the doors and windows to contain the fire. Minutes later the Fire Department arrived and put out the fire.

Gold Medals of Honor Winners

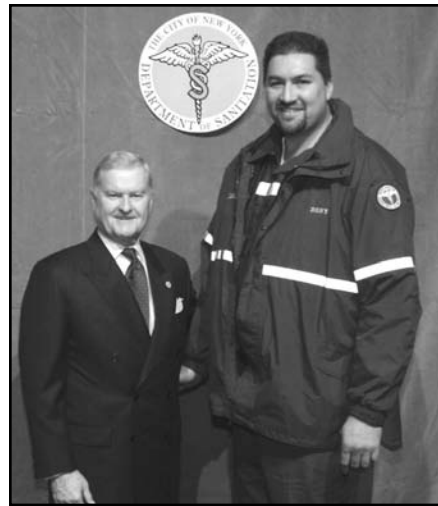
At 4 A.M. on September 14, 2005 while on their way back to the Brooklyn District 17 garage, Sanitation Workers Damon Allen and Michael Kalinowski - who were emptying litter baskets - saw flames shooting out of an apartment building and heard frantic cries for help. As they ran toward the building, a panicked father was dangling his young daughter from the third floor fire escape. The flames were shooting out of the window, as the father balanced himself and dropped his daughter from the balcony, into the waiting arms of Sanitation Worker Allen. Meanwhile, Sanitation Worker Kalinowski helped the father jump to the ground before the flames intensified. The fire was so intense that three firefighters were injured extinguishing the blaze.

Silver Medal of Honor Winner

On August 11, 2005, Sanitation Worker Stanley White called 911 and began to hose down a burning apartment building in the Bronx with the fire hose from the adjoining Bronx district garage, while his co-workers, Gold Medal winners Supervisor Kane and Sanitation Worker Martinez, were leading residents to safety. Sanitation Worker White continued to hose down the building allowing Kane and Martinez to re-enter the building, to close windows and doors, and stop the fire from spreading until the Fire Department arrived.

Bronze Medal of Honor Winner

On August 9, 2005, while on routine patrol in Brooklyn, Sanitation Police Officer (SPO) John Guarneri observed a 68-year-old man being spat on, slapped, and assaulted with a baseball bat. Immediately, SPO Guarneri apprehended and detained the assailant until the Police arrived and spared the victim from further injury. The victim required medical attention for bruises and lacerations to his body. The assailant was charged with second-degree assault and harassment, as well as criminal possession of a weapon.



7-foot-tall new Sanitation Worker Joseph Jardane, BKS 17, gets marching orders from Commissioner Doherty.



Newly promoted Assistant Chief Ronald Dobson, Snow Ops, and Mayor Bloomberg.



Chief Steven Harbin, Safety and Training, takes oath.



Mayor Bloomberg presents Gold and Silver Medals of Honor.



DSNY Track and Field Team members receive thanks from Commissioner Doherty.



Inspector Steven Costas, Queens West, is congratulated by Mayor Bloomberg.



Sanitation Police Inspector Vincent M. Caruso.



Mayor Bloomberg thanks Bronx 6 Medal recipients.



Deputy Chief Chi Dong gets congrats on his promotion.



New General Superintendents take official oath of office.

Excerpts from Mayor Bloomberg's Speech

"Time and time again, DSNY's 9,500 members show why they make up the greatest sanitation department on the planet.

"In a few minutes, more than 400 of you will take the oath of office and join this incredible organization. More than 100 of you will receive well-deserved promotions and several more of you will receive Medals of Honor. Congratulations."

* * *

"As we all know, keeping our city clean is a profession that doesn't always get the credit it deserves.

"DSNY doesn't have its own TV show...its own museum...or its own calendar but make no mistake – your work is vitally important to the strength, safety, and prosperity of our city.

"It all begins with you.

"You are the ones who keep our streets and sidewalks clean - which is the foundation of our city's great quality of life.

"You are the ones who keep our roads clear during a snowstorm so that our police, firefighters, and EMS can do their life-saving work."

* * *

"In total, the Sanitation Department is responsible for more than 63 hundred miles of asphalt crisscrossing the five boroughs. That's almost enough road to stretch from New York to Tokyo.

"And by our measure, those streets are cleaner today than they've been in 31 years. (Make that 31 years and counting!)

"Because of that, communities, which only a few years ago were considered unsafe and unpleasant, are now making a comeback, with new homes rising, and new businesses thriving.

"New York's Strongest achieved all this despite the hazards that are inherent to their work.

"I know I've taken some heat in the past for talking about the dangers of your profession – but I'm never one to discount the risks that our city's workforce confronts each day.

"Whether it's the heavy machinery that you operate...the unpredictable traffic that you must contend with...or the waste and refuse that you handle...the dangers are clear...

"But I do want to thank you for assuming these risks. And I want to thank you all for answering the call."

* * *

"May God Bless and protect each of you as you go about your all-important jobs and may God continue to bless "New York City's Strongest."

Collector's Items

Our Condolences... To the families of Tyrone Cooper, Sanitation Worker, Manhattan 4A; William Radie, brother of Robert Radie, Supervisor, QWA; Andrew Clev Breland, father of Suskind Breland, Sanitation Worker, Brooklyn South 8; to Lt. Anthony DeFillipo, Enforcement, on the passing of his mother, Alma.

Correction... Our condolences to Anthony and brother Frank Mazzocchi, First Vice President of Local 444, on the recent loss of their mother, Jennie.

Congratulations... to Rita Brackeen who was recently appointed as the Department Advocate.

Cheers... to the Department of Sanitation which has been honored for its significant contribution to the Combined Municipal Campaign, which allows City employees to contribute, via payroll deductions, to local and national charities.

Reminder... To members of the Department during the holiday season to donate a toy for a needy child as part of the DSNY's Billy Fund "New York Strongest" Toy Drive.

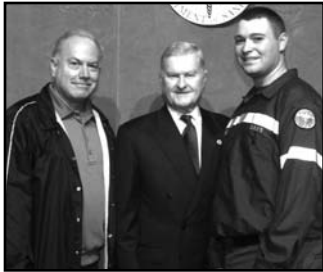
Congratulations . . . District Superintendent Gerard Robson, BKN 3, whose daughter, Melissa, was second runner-up in the Miss Staten Island 2006 Scholarship Pageant.

Our own G-Man: Superintendent Keith Mellis, PICA, graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Citizens Academy, an intensive 11-week course ranging from Counter Terrorism to Identity Theft. He also received a perfect attendance award.

Keeping Pace . . . Not only did Sanitation sweep city streets clean after the ING New York City Marathon, some co-workers also participated in the run: Sanitation Worker Pat Hannafin, MAN 2, finished in 4 hours, 8 minutes, and 28 seconds; SW Joseph Accurso, SI 2, 4 hours, 22 minutes, and 34 seconds; and SW Tommy Hart, SI 1, 4 hours and 47 minutes. Kudos to all!

FOUR GENERATIONS ON THE JOB

Commissioner Doherty formally welcomes new Sanitation Worker Michael Patrick Murphy, Brooklyn South District 14, to the Department making him the fourth generation of Murphys to serve with the DSNY. Mike's dad, Patrick John Murphy, a Supervisor in Brooklyn North 2, looks on with pride. Mike's grandfather, the late Patrick Joseph Murphy, worked in the former Auxiliary Field Force until his retirement in 1974, while Mike's great grandfather, Patrick Joseph Murphy, retired from the DSNY in 1946. The Murphys are why people refer to DSNY as the 'family of Sanitation.'



PLAY BALL...FOOTBALL THAT IS

Congratulations to the players and committee behind the Department's only official football team, DSNY Football. They've been practicing on Mondays at Leavitt Field in Flushing, Queens, and from what we hear they are quickly getting their game feet in shape. In late January, they'll be back on the practice field preparing for a series of games that will be publicized through Department channels. If you are interested in joining the DSNY Football team or just want to know a little more about them, you can call committee president Paddy McCutchen at (646) 261-3813 or visit their web page at www.DSNYFootball.com. The DSNY liaisons to the team are Deputy Chiefs Sebastian Grasso, BCC Collection Office, and Gary Falconer, Bronx Boro Office. All the best!

Adopt a Naval Ship holiday project 2005



The Department has launched a unique campaign to support the brave men and women who are preserving our freedom abroad.

First Deputy Commissioner Michael Bimonte and I – both Navy veterans – have arranged for the Department to 'adopt' the U.S.S.

Austin, an amphibious transport dock ship with a crew of 437 and 900 Marines currently in the Persian Gulf. The ship was built at the old Brooklyn Navy Yard; its Commanding Officer is from the Bronx, and more importantly, the loved ones of some DSNY employees are on board.

For the holidays, the crew can use movies (either DVD or VCR), crossword puzzles, books, appropriate magazines, footballs or baseballs for on-deck recreation, non-perishable snack foods, prepaid phone calling cards, etc. They also could use letters of support from New York's Strongest.

In return, the U.S.S. Austin will proudly fly our Sanitation Department flag.

Doug Luback, Supervisor of Mechanics, is coordinating our drive with Gloria Coletti at Fresh Kills. Doug also is a Lt. Commander in the Naval Reserves and has served both America and the DSNY in Iraq and more recently in the Hurricane Katrina relief effort. Your Borough Chiefs have more details on how you can help.

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Vito A. Turso,
Deputy Commissioner

Contributors:

Kathy Dawkins,
Director, Public Information

Keith W. Mellis,
Executive Officer, Public Information

Emily Cleary,
Intern, Public Information Office

Ana Lafe,
Director, Special Projects

Photos by **Mike Castellano**

Graphics Assistance by **Louis Seeley, Richard Ariya, Wayne R. Carter**